

IN THE CLAIMS:

At line 1, delete "Patent Claims", and substitute --I Claim:--.

Please amend the claims as follows:

~~Sub 1~~ 1 (Amended). Method for producing a rim hole through a [pile] stack of at least two plate-shaped work[ ]pieces of the type using [in which by means of] a rim hole punch, essentially driven vertically through the pile, by which material of the one plate-shaped work[ ]piece facing the rim hole punch is pushed through an opening of the other plate-shaped work[ ]piece whereby the inside contours of the opening essentially correspond to the outer contours of the rim hole, [characterised in that] comprising the steps of forming, in a single feed movement of the rim hole punch (7), both the rim hole (9) as well as the opening (21) in the other, rear plate-shaped work[ ]piece (2) seen from the direction of feed, [are formed] by having the plate-shaped work[ ]piece (2) pointing away from the rim hole punch supported by a matrix (8), and breaking out, [such that] when the rim hole punch is driven through the [pile] stack (1, 2), a piece of material (10) [is broken out] of the rear plate-shaped work[ ]piece (2) [and whose] the outer contours of which piece of material essentially correspond to the outer contours of the rim hole.

~~Sub 2~~ 2 (Amended). Method for producing a rim hole according to Claim 1, [characterised in that] wherein at the end of the feed movement of the rim hole punch (7), the rim hole (9)

protrudes over the <sup>LAB</sup> surface facing matrix (8) of the rear plate-shaped work[ ]piece (2).

*Sub 1* (Amended). Method for producing a [riveted joint] rim hole according to Claim 2, and the step of flanging [characterised in that] the rim hole (7) [is preferably flanged by] <sup>by</sup> means of a flange punch (12) fed from a side of the workpieces opposite the rim hole punch, whereby, after flanging, the outer surface (14) of the rim hole rests, at least in some sections, on the <sup>LAB</sup> outer surface (15) of the rear workpiece.

4 (Amended). Method for producing a rim hole according to [one of the above cited claims, characterised in that prior to formation of the rim hole] Claim 1, and the step of creating a penetration opening (3, 3'), prior to formation of the rim hole, [is created] through the pile (1, 2) and [whose] where the cross-section surface for such penetration opening corresponds at most to the cross-section surface of the opening (50, 51) of the rim hole.

*Sub B5* (Amended). Method for producing a rim hole according to [one of the above cited claims, characterised in that] Claim 4, and wherein the penetration opening (3, 3') is created through the pile (1, 2) with an essentially constant cross-section.

6 (Amended). Method for producing a rim hole according to [one of the above cited claims, characterised in that] Claim 4, and wherein the penetration opening (3, 3') is created with the feed movement of the rim hole punch by means of the rim hole